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1884

# ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE

# TOWN OF PELHAM, N. H.,

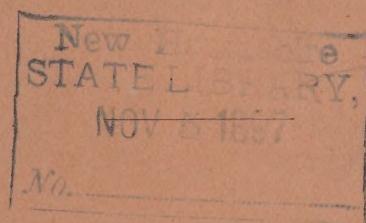
SHOWING THE

## RECEIPTS AND EXPENDITURES

TOGETHER WITH THE

## REPORT OF SUPERINTENDING SCHOOL COMMITTEE,

For the Year Ending March 1, 1885.



LOWELL, MASS.

MORNING MAIL PRINT: NO. 18 JACKSON STREET.  
1885.



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**For the Year Ending March 1, 1885.**

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# TOWN OFFICERS, 1884.

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SELECTMEN, ASSESSORS, AND OVERSEERS OF THE POOR.

CHARLES L. SEAVERY, RICHARD B. HILLMAN,  
SAMUEL KELLEY.

TOWN CLERK.

DANIEL P. ATWOOD.

TOWN TREASURER.

DAVID A. GREELEY.

COLLECTOR.

CHARLES W. SPEAR.

SUPERINTENDING SCHOOL COMMITTEE.

CHARLES W. HOBBS.

ROAD COMMISSIONERS.

DWELLEY E. SIMPSON, DAVID A. GREELEY,  
ORLANDO W. SPAULDING, SAMUEL KELLEY,  
AMOS R. HOBBS, WARREN SHERBURN.

AUDITORS.

GEORGE S. BUTLER, OTIS A. GAGE,  
CHARLES W. HOBBS.

SUPERVISORS.

FREDERIC A. CUTTER, JAMES A. FOSTER,  
TIMOTHY DONOVAN.

FENCE VIEWERS.

CHARLES L. SEAVERY, CHARLES W. HOBBS,  
RICHARD B. HILLMAN.

# SELECTMEN'S REPORT.

## VITAL STATISTICS.

The Town Clerk and Registrar respectfully submits the following report of the Vital Statistics of the Town of Pelham, for the year ending December 31, 1884.

### MARRIAGES.

Whole number of marriage certificates issued during the year	3
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### BIRTHS.

Whole number of births returned for the year, of which nine were male and six were female children.....	15
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### DEATHS.

Whole number of deaths returned during the year, for which burial permits were issued.....	11
Number of bodies removed from town and interred in other places.....	2
Brought from other places and interred in this town.....	8

Persons employing physicians from out of this State will please inform them of the fact that all births shall be returned within six days after their occurrence; also that all deaths must be returned and a burial permit issued before an interment can take place.

DANIEL P. ATWOOD,  
*Town Clerk and Registrar.*

## INVENTORY OF TAXABLE PROPERTY, APRIL 1, 1884.

	Value.	Av. per Hd.
Number of Polls, 232.....		
Number of Oxen, 18.....	\$ 1,125	\$62 50
Number of Cows, 697.....	19,996	28 69
Number of Horses, 249.....	16,287	65 41

Number of other cattle, 60.....	\$1,018	\$16 97
Number of Sheep, 103.....	303	2 94
Number of Hogs, 36. ....	356	9 90
Number of Carriages, 7.....	550	
Amount of money at interest in notes.....		\$42,497
Amount of money in banks in State.....		4,000
Stock in trade.....		11,245
Mills and machinery.....		9,900

### PAID TOWN OFFICERS.

Paid C. L. Seavey, for services as Selectman, Assessor, and Overseer of the Poor, for the year ending March 1, 1884.....	\$80 00
R. B. Hillman, for services as Selectman, Assessor and Overseer of the Poor, for the year ending March 1, 1884.....	40 00
Samuel Kelley, for services as Selectman, Assessor, and Overseer of the Poor, for the year ending March 1, 1884.....	33 50
Daniel P. Atwood, for services as Town Clerk, for the year ending March 1, 1884.....	30 56
Augustus Berry, for services as Superintending School Committee, for the year ending March 1, 1884.....	40 00
David A. Greeley, for services as Town Treasurer, for the year ending March 1, 1884.....	40 00
Charles W. Spear, for services as Collector of Taxes, for the year ending March 1, 1884.....	70 00
Frederic A. Cutter, for services as Supervisor.....	15 00
James A. Foster, for services as Supervisor.....	15 00
Timothy Donovan, for services as Supervisor.....	15 00
	45 00
	<hr/>
	\$379 06

### TOWN PAUPER EXPENSE.

Paid for board and clothing for F. W. Titecomb, at New Hampshire Insane Asylum, from January 1, 1884, to January 1, 1885.....	\$137 65
John T. Pitman, for board of Elizabeth A. Roney, from January 17, 1884, to September 2, 1884,	102 72
Samuel Kelley, expense of clothing and moving Lizzie A. Roney to county farm.....	8 41
	<hr/>
The board of Lizzie A. Roney is now due the county since she was entered there.	\$248 78

## COUNTY PAUPER ACCOUNT.

DR.

Paid for aid furnished John F. Wright*	\$9 00
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CR.

Received of County Commissioners, for goods furnished Nathan Caldwell, from January 1, to February 2, 1883, by James A. Foster.....	27 17
Received of Charles W. Hobbs, Administrator of the Estate of John Roney, late of Pelham, N. H., forty-four dollars and eight cents, the same being the distributive share of Lizzie A. Roney in said estate, the aforesaid Lizzie A. Roney being a town charge at this time.....	44 08

\*This amount now due from County of Hillsborough.

## WOODCHUCK BOUNTIES.

	No. Woodchucks.	Bounty.
Paid William Morris.....	1	\$ 10
Mark Webster.....	22	2 20
Moses Johnson.....	1	10
Kimball J. Chaplin.....	11	1 10
Joseph L. Cambridge.....	5	50
Ned Butler.....	3	30
Rei Hills.....	4	40
Sadie Spalding.....	4	40
Walter Spalding.....	9	90
Winthrop B. Keyes.....	48	4 80
Willie Coburn.....	4	40
Willie Burtt.....	1	10
Willis Cogger.....	12	1 20
Wallace Boutwell.....	17	1 70
Otis A. Gage.....	2	20
Martin L. Favor.....	2	20
Patrick Quigley.....	6	60
Thomas W. Lee.....	8	80
Annie Lewis.....	2	20
George J. Carlton.....	13	1 30
Name not known.....	10	1 00
Marshall Gould.....	5	50
Albert Searles.....	27	2 70
Albert Lewis.....	1	10
Avery Jones.....	7	70
Arthur Cutter.....	13	1 30
Allen and Gray.....	14	1 40
Bertie R. Spear.....	17	1 70
<i>Amount carried forward.....</i>		<hr/> \$26 90

<i>Amount brought forward.....</i>		\$26 90
Paid Charles Hardy.....	1	10
Carl Kelley.....	18	1 80
Charles McKenzie.....	1	10
Charles W. Spear.....	14	1 40
Charles H. Blanchard.....	9	90
Clarence H. Muldoon.....	1	10
Dwight Edwards.....	18	1 80
Fred A. Keyes.....	64	6 40
Fred Greeley.....	5	50
Fred Smith.....	1	10
Frank Harris.....	2	20
Eddie G. Smith.....	3	30
Eddie Atwood.....	8	80
George Lary.....	6	60
George Kent.....	7	70
George Ham.....	2	20
Gardner Sherburn.....	73	7 30
Henry Laclare.....	1	10
Harper B. Giles.....	1	10
Harry Atwood.....	5	50
Henry H. Peters.....	3	30
Joseph Donovan.....	13	1 30
John Center.....	7	70
John H. Marsh.....	7	70
Joseph A. Seavey.....	2	20
		\$54 10
Woodchuck bounty, now due from the State.....		1 30

### ROADS AND BRIDGES.

Paid Nathan S. Sleeper, for gravel.....		\$6 00
Samuel Kelley, for bridge stringers, spikes and building bridge near O'Toole place.....		13 62
Andrew Tallant, for work on highways.....		1 05
Thomas W. Simpson, for 576 feet pine plank, at 18 cts.....		10 36
For 84 feet oak plank, at 20 cts.....		1 68
		\$32 71

### MISCELLANEOUS.

Paid Huse, Goodwin & Co., for printing 350 Town Re- ports of 1883.....		\$25 00
<i>Amount carried forward.....</i>		\$25 00

<i>Amount brought forward.....</i>	<b>\$25 00</b>
Paid Huse, Goodwin & Co., for printing 30 copies of check list.....	10 00
Huse, Goodwin & Co., for printing 25 warrants..	3 25
J. Nourse, for work on bridge.....	10
Amos Bachelder, for reporting births and deaths..	3 25
C. L. Seavey, for repairing road machine.....	2 00
C. L. Seavey, for books and stationery.....	2 00
Express on road scraper.....	75
For new cutter on road machine and postage.....	6 12
Dwellie Simpson, for breaking snow-paths in March, 1884.....	3 22
One pair whiffletrees for road machine.....	2 75
Road machine evener.....	75
Staging to shingle hall.....	1 00
George T. Hill, for painting wheels, mending, painting and varnishing hearse.....	17 00
George H. Currier, for breaking snow-paths in March, 1884.....	6 59
George H. Currier, for work on highways in school district No. 5 .....	3 16
Whitney & Tibbetts, for 13,000 shingles.....	50 38
R. B. Hillman, for teaming shingles .....	3 00
F. M. Woodbury, for nails for shingles .....	2 27
C. L. Seavey, for saddle-boards for hall.....	1 50
C. L. Seavey, for staging-plank, and teaming same,	3 00
C. W. Hobbs, for three days' work shingling hall..	7 50
O. G. Spear, for three days' work shingling hall...	7 50
For lamps and burners for hall.....	5 50
Frank Stickney, for three days' work shingling hall.	7 50
P. J. Cogger, for keeping public watering trough..	3 00
William A. Couilliard, for repairs on road machine,	4 66
Samuel Kelley, for part payment of surveying and placing stone monument on line between Pelham and Methuen.....	6 50
David A. Greeley, expense of paying State and County tax.....	4 00
Kimball J. Chaplin, for services as sexton.....	49 00
	<hr/>
	<b>\$242 25</b>

### TOWN HOUSE.

Received for use of Town House, for the year ending March 1, 1885.....	<b>\$72 75</b>
Paid Edwin Atwood, for opening hall.....	\$21 00
C. W. Hobbs, for opening hall from March 1 to March 12, 1884.....	2 75
	<hr/>
<i>Amounts carried forward.....</i>	<b>\$23 75</b>
	<b>\$72 75</b>

<i>Amounts brought forward.....</i>	\$23 75	\$72 75
Paid Wood for Town House.....	10 50	
F. M. Woodbury, for articles furnished Town House.....	8 40	
Edwin Atwood, for collecting and putting in wood-shed old shingles.....	1 00	
Edwin Atwood, for washing floors and cloths...	3 00	
		46 65
Net income.....		\$26 10

## ROAD COMMISSIONERS.

### SCHOOL DISTRICT NO. 1.

Balance in Treasury March 1, 1884.....	\$28 08	
Amount of road tax paid in money in School District No. 1, for 1884.....	128 80	
		156 88
Paid Dwelley E. Simpson, Commissioner District No. 1, balance of 1883.....	28 08	
Dwelley E. Simpson, part of tax of 1884.....	114 63	
		142 71
Balance now in treasury due District No. 1.....		\$14 17

### SCHOOL DISTRICT NO. 2.

Amount of tax paid in money for 1884.....	\$181 59	
Paid David A. Greeley, Commissioner, part of tax....	128 88	
Balance now in treasury due District No. 2.....		\$52 71

### SCHOOL DISTRICT NO. 3.

Balance in treasury March 1, 1884.....	\$73 52	
Amount due District No. 3, of 1884 tax.....	119 93	
		193 45
Paid O. W. Spaulding, Commissioner in District No. 3, for 1883 and 1884.....	115 57	
Balance now in treasury due District No. 3.....		\$77 88

### SCHOOL DISTRICT NO. 4.

Amount of highway tax paid in District No. 4, for 1884, \$145 82		
Paid Samuel Kelley, Commissioner, part of amount in treas- ury due District No. 4.....	100 00	
Balance now in treasury due District No. 4.....		\$45 82

## SCHOOL DISTRICT No. 5.

Amount of highway tax paid in Money in School District No. 5, for 1884.....	\$146 83
Paid A. R. Hobbs, Commissioner, whole amount in treasury.....	146 83
A. R. Hobbs, Commissioner, for School District No. 5, for 1884, of the extra appropriation for the Lowell road.....	445 92

## SCHOOL DISTRICT No. 6.

Amount of highway tax paid in money, in School District No. 6.....	\$33 52
Whole amount now in treasury.....	33 52
Whole amount of road money now in treasury.....	224 10

## SNOW BILLS.

Paid G. B. Currier, for breaking roads in 1885.....	\$ 2 00
Samuel Kelley, " " 1884-85...	27 37
O. W. Simpson, " " 1884-85...	17 25
George S. Butler, " " 1885.....	1 50
<hr/>	
	\$48 12

EXPENSE OF LAND DAMAGES AND  
BUILDING NEW ROAD.

Paid David A. Greeley, for land damage .....	\$225 00
Alfred S. Smith, for land damage, awarded by the Selectmen of 1882.....	150 00
A. S. Smith, for privilege of straightening brook, and for land used for grading purposes.....	25 00
O. A. Simpson, for building road.....	962 00
R. B. Hillman, for 10½ days' work on road.....	21 00
R. B. Hillman, for culvert stringers.....	10 60
Davis & Sargent, for spruce railing.....	23 00
R. B. Hillman, for teaming railing.....	2 00
F. A. Cutter, for bridge stringers delivered.....	81 20
C. L. Seavey, for 2,960 feet 3-inch plank delivered,	59 20
F. M. Woodbury, for cask spikes.....	2 85
George H. Currier, for labor.....	3 00
James M. Hardy, for labor.....	1 25
Edgar M. Hardy, for labor.....	1 25
Kimball J. Chaplin, for labor.....	1 25
<hr/>	
Amount carried forward.....	\$1,568 60

<i>Amount brought forward .....</i>	\$1,568 60
Paid Wallace Kent, for labor.....	1 25
Orandel Burtt, for labor.....	1 25
C. L. Seavey, for labor.....	7 00
Warren Kent, for labor.....	4 00
George Kent, for labor.....	3 75
C. L. Seavey, for bridge railing.....	4 35
expense of surveying.....	2 75
Thomas W. Sampson, for 108 chestnut posts.....	16 20
Charles W. Spear, for labor.....	18 50
	<hr/>
	\$1,627 65
Amount of labor given.....	113 50
	<hr/>
Total cost.....	\$1,741 15

### NEW ROAD.

The amount of labor given:

A. F. Carlton.....	\$5 00
A. R. Hobbs.....	5 00
Charles M. Kent.....	2 00
Charles L. Seavey.....	15 00
David A. Greeley.....	8 00
Enoch M. Marsh.....	8 00
Granville B. Currier.....	5 00
George H. Currier.....	8 00
Wm. Livingston.....	2 50
Samuel A. Richardson.....	4 00
Wm. F. Richardson.....	5 00
George P. Wood.....	7 00
Warren D. Kent.....	12 00
Joseph Marsh.....	6 00
George S. Butler.....	4 00
R. B. Hilliman.....	10 50
F. A. Cutter.....	6 50
	<hr/>
	\$113 50

### ABATEMENT OF TAXES.

Non-resident highway tax paid in labor.....	\$72 18
Thomas McNamara, tax of 1883.....	75
Thomas Staples, tax of 1883.....	2 34
Moses Runnels, part of tax of 1883.....	3 73
	<hr/>
	\$79 00

## RECAPITULATION.

Paid State tax.....	\$1,116 00
County tax.....	812 34
School money.....	1,543 57
Woodchuck bounty.....	54 10
Road Commissioners.....	1,079 90
Miscellaneous.....	242 25
Expense of Hall.....	46 65
Snow bills.....	48 12
Roads and bridges.....	32 71
Paid town officers.....	379 06
Town pauper expense.....	248 78
County pauper expense.....	9 00
Abatement of Taxes in 1883.....	79 00
Expense of new road.....	1,627 65
	<hr/>
	\$7,319 13

## SCHOOL MONEY.

Whole amount in treasury March 1, 1884 exclusive of dog tax and Literary fund.....	\$813 17
Whole amount in treasury March 1, 1885, exclusive of dog tax and literary fund.....	813 33
Balance due District No. 1, March 1, 1884....	\$200 95
Town appropriation of 1884.....	264 71
Dog fund of 1883.....	9 00
Literary fund of 1883.....	19 35
	<hr/>
Paid O. G. Spear, prudential committee for summer term.....	\$74 40
O. G. Spear, for fall term.....	80 00
O. G. Spear, for winter term.....	112 20
Daniel G. B. Burns, for wood.....	11 05
	<hr/>
Balance due District No. 1, March 1, 1885....	\$271 65
	<hr/>
Balance due District No. 2, March 1, 1884....	\$135 09
Town appropriation of 1884.....	264 71
Dog fund of 1884.....	16 00
Literary fund of 1883.....	18 82
	<hr/>
Paid Kimball J. Chapin, prudential committee for summer term.....	\$90 00
Kimball J. Chapin, for fall term.....	91 96
Kimball J. Chapin, for winter term.....	128 02
	<hr/>
Balance due District No. 2 March 1, 1885....	\$309 98
	<hr/>
	\$124 64

Balance due District No. 3, March 1, 1884....	\$153 96
Town appropriation of 1884.....	264 71
Dog fund of 1883.....	18 00
Literary fund of 1883.....	10 46
	_____
	\$447 13
Paid Rei Hill, prudential committee, for summer term.....	\$74 55
Rei Hill, fall term.....	100 00
Rei Hill, for winter term.....	109 50
	_____
	\$284 05
Balance due District No. 3 March 1, 1885.....	\$163 08
Balance due District No. 4, March 1, 1884....	\$133 80
Town appropriation for 1884.....	264 71
Dog fund of 1883.....	12 00
Literary fund of 1883.....	18 25
	_____
	\$428 76
Paid Gage A. Fox, prudential committee for summer term.....	\$75 68
Gage A. Fox, for fall term, wages of teacher.....	72 00
incidental expense.....	17 78
Gage A. Fox, for winter term, wages of teacher.....	108 00
incidental expense.....	20 73
	_____
	\$294 19
Balance due District No. 4, March 1, 1885....	\$134 57
Balance due District No. 5, March 1, 1884....	\$111 26
Town appropriation for 1884.....	264 71
Dog fund of 1883.....	18 00
Literary fund of 1883.....	12 07
	_____
	\$406 04
Paid George H. Currier, prudential committee of summer term.....	\$72 00
George H. Currier, for fall term.....	81 00
George H. Currier, for winter term, wages of teacher.....	108 00
incidental expenses.....	18 95
	_____
	\$279 95
Balance due District No. 5, March 1, 1885....	\$126 09
Balance due District No. 6, March 1, 1884....	\$78 11
Town appropriation of 1884.....	64 61
Dog fund of 1883.....	1 00
Literary fund of 1883.....	2 61
<i>Amount carried forward.....</i>	_____
	\$146 33

<i>Amount brought forward</i> .....	\$146 33
Paid G. W. Sherburn, prudential committee for summer term .....	\$24 00
for sending scholars to Dis. No. 2, in 1883, .....	14 00
for sending scholars to Dis. No. 2, in 1884, .....	5 25
G. W. Sherburn, for winter term .....	60 50
	_____
	\$103 75
Balance due District No. 6, March 1, 1885....	\$42 58
Whole amount expended for school purposes for the year ending March 1, 1884:	
Town appropriation expended.....	\$1,387 97
Dog fund of 1883 .....	74 00
Literary fund of 1883.....	81 60
	_____
	\$1,543 57

### VALUATION.

Total amount assessed and committed to Collector, State, County, Town, School, Non-Resident Tax in full, and Resident Highway Tax paid in money, of which \$100 is Dog Tax.....	\$5,466 50
Resident Highway Tax paid in labor.....	640 90
	_____
Total amount of tax assessed for 1884.....	\$6,107 40
Total valuation of the town, April 1, 1884.....	536,706 00
Rate of taxation including highway, \$11.10 on 1000.	

### TAXES ASSESSED.

State tax.....	\$1,116 00
County tax .....	812 34
For Schools.....	1400 00
For highways.....	1500 00
For town charges.....	500 00
For new road.....	500 00
Overlayings .....	149 96
	_____
Total .....	\$6,107 40

All of which is respectfully submitted by

CHARLES L. SEAVER,  
RICHARD B. HILLMAN,  
SAMUEL KELLEY,

*Selectmen of Pelham.*

# TREASURER'S REPORT.

## DR.

Amount in treasury, including Dog Fund \$74.00, and Literary Fund \$81.60, March 1, 1884.....	\$1,073 36
Total amount paid by Collector, C. W. Spear.....	5,222 02
Amount to balance 1883 book.....	\$711 46
Interest on last item.....	10 93
Of which the abatements are.....	79 00
By cash received from County Treasurer, for abatements of County Tax.....	122 06
cash received from C. L. Seavey, from County Commissioners, for board of County paupers.....	27 17
cash received of F. H. Hillman, for loan of road money.....	1,000 00
State Treasurer, abatements of State Tax..	150 25
State Treasurer, abatements of Savings	
Bank Tax.....	609 72
cash received of State Treasurer, for Literary Fund.....	87 36
State Treasurer, bounty on woodchucks....	52 80
Received from Selectmen, from C. W. Hobbs, administrator of the estate of John Roney, for the support of Lizzie Roney.....	44 08
Received from agent of Town Hall.....	57 97
K. J. Chaplain, for 4 grave lots and use of hearse,	6 00
	<hr/>
	\$8,452 79

## CR.

By cash paid on orders issued by Selectmen.....	7,319 13
Leaving amount of cash in treasury March 1, 1885.....	<u>\$1,133 66</u>

## FINANCIAL CONDITION OF THE TOWN.

Owe F. H. Hillman.....	\$1,000 00
Outstanding taxes unpaid and in collector's hands.....	966 87

DAVID A. GREELEY, *Treasurer.*

PELHAM, Feb. 28, 1885.

We, the undersigned, a Committee to Examine the Accounts of the Selectmen and Treasurer of the Town of Pelham, for the year ending March 1, 1885, find that the Selectmen have issued orders to the amount of \$7,319.13, and said orders were properly receipted.

And we find that the Town Treasurer has received \$8,452.79, and has paid the above-mentioned orders of the Selectmen to the amount of \$7,319.13, leaving balance in the Treasury to the amount of \$1,133.66.

GEO. S. BUTLER,  
OTIS A. GAGE,  
CHARLES W. HOBBS,

*Auditors.*

# REPORT

OF THE

SUPERINTENDING SCHOOL COMMITTEE,

For the Year Ending March 1st, 1885.



## REPORT.

---

The limited knowledge of the schools, for the past few years, possessed by your Superintending Committee, forbids any comparison of the past year's school work with that of preceding years; but still I will venture to say that the past year has been fairly successful. In every instance teachers of experience have been employed, and all but one have taught one or more terms of school in this town previous to this year.

Prudential Committees have used good judgment in the selection of teachers, and with the exception of a bad precedent in regard to miscellaneous expenses, have done their duty in an admirable manner. In this connection it might be well to state that "an amount not exceeding 5 per cent. of the school money," can be used for ordinary repairs. Any amount used in excess of that is plainly illegal, and it is, and should be, a part of the duty of the Selectmen to see that the provisions of this law are complied with.

The amount of school money has been amply sufficient, and the school year, in most cases, has covered 30 weeks or more. The amount appropriated, and available from the literary and dog funds, is between \$1500 and \$1600, and seems quite a contrast to the amount of the first appropriation on our Town Records, namely, 10 pounds.

The teachers in our schools have received the past winter an average of \$35 per month. This makes a very

good showing, comparing it with the average wages throughout the State and county. In our own county of Hillsborough, the average wages of female teachers as reported last year was \$26.18, and in the whole State \$23.14.

But few, if any of the agricultural towns of this State pay their teachers as liberally as this town, and we should secure the services of teachers of more than average ability. In most cases I think we do. The next question is do we receive the greatest benefit possible from this expenditure of money? If not, there *must* be a remedy, if we do, there need be none. This is an age of progress, and everything changes; the people of the present day are continually calling for something new; they must live and dress better, ride faster, and know more of what is going on in the world about them than their fathers did. Everything changes but the district school, that remains the same; or perhaps a new book, and a new teacher may make a slight change for a term or two, but essentially the district school of to-day is the same as the one of fifty years ago. We should not think, as many apparently do, that the school that was good enough for us and for our fathers before us, is good enough for our children. The qualifications of our teachers are higher, but the district school remains the same. Here year after year pupils go out from our schools no better qualified for the practical duties of life than were our fathers before us. Here you see the little child learning the alphabet, and the young man or woman demonstrating a problem in geometry, all in one room and under the instruction of one teacher, who must turn from teaching the little one how to spell "boy" to assist in solving mathematical problems, whose principal use is to puzzle the brain of both teacher and pupil. And yet

in these schools nine-tenths of our population receive all the school instruction of their lives.

The best results of education can never be obtained in an ungraded school. It is an utter impossibility for any teacher to give all the pupils in an ungraded school that attention that they require; some must suffer, and those who suffer most are usually the more advanced pupils.

The *public* schools of every town should be able to graduate pupils practically fitted for all the duties of life—pupils who can take the place of their teachers, and carry on the work successfully. Until the public schools can do this there is chance for improvement. It may be said, and said truly, that higher qualifications are needed for our teachers than can be obtained in our public schools of the present time. If so, then there should be the opportunity provided to obtain these higher qualifications, and unless they are provided, we are, comparatively speaking, falling behind in the cause of education.

In the last twenty-five years, from our public schools, supplemented in most cases by one or more terms of a select, or high school (taught by one of our own teachers, who today has the love and respect of all), there have gone forth teachers, who, in our own town, and in wider fields of usefulness, have done noble service in the cause of education.

Can we not do the same thing now, or must we depend on outside schools to give our children an education to fit them for the battle of life? We have been in the habit of calling our town progressive in regard to education, but it seems to me that we are progressing backwards, comparatively speaking.

The law now permits towns to establish high schools, but will the people do it? It would seem not in our

town; but until it is done we cannot hold our own in the matter of education. It is only a question of time when all towns will be obliged by law to do this.

Practical education is what we need in every occupation in life, and it cannot be obtained from a text-book when all the practical part of it is on the cover, and it would seem that some of our text-books were of that description. In education we have to take the human mind as we find it, in an undeveloped state, and what seems clear and easy of explanation to the mature intellect, is entirely beyond the comprehension of the child. It is the fashion to praise everything new, and sneer at anything old—call it “old fogy,” “antedeluvian,” etc.—but it would seem that some of the “newfangled” notions, as well as text-books, are not any improvement over the old ones.

That old-fashioned book, Colburn’s Arithmetic, has done more to furnish a practical knowledge of arithmetic than any book that has ever been in our common schools, and it is to be regretted that it is displaced, unless a better one can be obtained.

In Districts No. 2 and 5, the same teachers as of the last few years, again took up their work where they left it and carried it on throughout the year in a thorough and successful manner. These two districts should be an example for the rest of the town in this respect—first secure a good teacher and then keep that teacher as long as possible, so that no time may be lost. Where all the exercises at the close of these schools were of such general excellence, the reading in No. 5, and map drawing and geography combined, in No. 2, were especially noticeable. In district No. 4 the good results of the three successive terms were very apparent. At the close, the exercises in mathematics deserve especial mention,

as well as some specimens of finely kept books, by those who attended to book-keeping during the year.

Districts Nos. 1, 3, and 6, each had two teachers during the year. In No. 1 the first term was very satisfactory, and the loss of the teacher for the remainder of the year was a disappointment to the people of the district. The two remaining terms were fairly successful, but a new teacher in a new school cannot accomplish the results that can be obtained by a long course of teaching in the same school.

In District No. 3 the teacher of the first term labored hard for the advancement of her pupils, and generally with good results, but the very irregular attendance of some of the pupils, is a general injury to the whole school. The remaining terms were taught by a teacher of experience in this school, and the district is to be congratulated that it was possible to secure his services. Some particularly fine specimens of map drawing were shown at the close of each term. The mathematical exercises in this school were of a very high order.

In District No. 6 the first term was taught by a former teacher, and was a very pleasant and profitable term in everything except the number of scholars.

In the winter school an addition to the number of scholars, and the truly thorough instruction rendered, made this a valuable term. Some very fine specimens of penmanship were particularly noticeable, and the general exercises showed great improvement.

#### **ROLL OF HONOR.**

The following scholars have not been absent or tardy during the school year:

GEORGIE L. HOBBS,  
ELLA F. CURRIER,

ALICE G. STICKNEY,  
WALTER SPAULDING.

Not absent or tardy for two years:

MARY A. CUTTER,  
PAUL R. CUTTER,

BLANCHE CARLTON,  
FRANK M. CARLTON.

Not absent or tardy for four years:

LIZZIE M. COBURN.

## STATISTICS.

DISTRICT No. 1.—OTIS G. SPEAR, Prudential Committee. Miss Ella C. Abbott, of Wilton, teacher of first term, 9 weeks. Number of scholars, 29. Average daily attendance, 26. Wages, \$32. Miss Ella J. Burns, of Nashua, teacher for the remainder of the year. Second term, 10 weeks. Number of scholars, 31. Average daily attendance, 21. Wages, \$32. Third term, 12 weeks. Number of scholars, 29. Average daily attendance, 21. Wages, \$36. Miscellaneous expenses, \$17.65. Whole number of scholars, 33—12 boys and 21 girls. The whole school attended to reading, spelling, writing and arithmetic, 28 to geography, 12 to grammar, 11 to history, 11 to drawing, 22 to composition, 29 to vocal music, 29 to physiology and 2 to algebra.

DISTRICT No. 2.—KIMBALL J. CHAPLIN, Prudential Committee. Miss M. Amanda Cloyd, teacher for the year. First term, 11 weeks. Number of scholars, 30. Average daily attendance, 28. Wages, \$32. Second term, 11 weeks. Number of scholars, 31. Average daily attendance, 28. Wages, \$32. Third term, 13 weeks. Number of scholars, 30. Average daily attendance, 27. Wages, \$40. Miscellaneous expenses, \$23.26. Whole number of scholars, 39—26 boys and 13 girls. The whole school attended to reading, spelling, writing, arithmetic and geography, 19 to grammar, 6 to history, 25 to composition, 6 to physiology, 7 to book-keeping, and 5 to algebra.

DISTRICT No. 3.—REI HILLS, Prudential Committee. Miss Sadie B. Sherburne, teacher of first term, 8 weeks. Number of scholars, 23. Average daily attendance, 18. Wages, \$30. Mr. George E. Pearson, teacher for the remainder of the year. Second term, 11 weeks. Number of scholars, 24. Average daily attendance, 19. Wages, \$36. Third term, 11 weeks. Number of scholars, 24. Average daily attendance, 19. Wages, \$40. The whole school attended to reading and spelling, 17 to writing, 19 to arithmetic, 9 to geography, 13 to grammar, 1 to history, 13 to composition, 4 to drawing, 2 to physiology, 2 to book-keeping, 2 to algebra, 2 to geometry and 2 to chemistry. Whole number of scholars, 31—20 boys and 11 girls. Miscellaneous expenses, \$17.05

DISTRICT No. 4.—GAGE A. FOX, Prudential Committee. Miss Alice E. Wilder, of Keene, teacher for the year. First term, 8 weeks. Number of scholars, 24. Average daily attendance, 22. Wages, \$32. Second term, 9 weeks. Number of scholars, 25. Average daily attendance, 20. Wages, \$32. Third term, 12 weeks. Number of scholars, 27. Average daily attendance, 21. Wages, \$36. Miscellaneous expenses,

\$42.19. Whole number of scholars, 33—14 boys and 19 girls. The whole school attended to reading and spelling, 23 to writing, 23 to arithmetic, 17 to geography, 16 to grammar, 6 to history, 21 to composition, 4 to physiology, 7 to book-keeping, and 1 to botany.

DISTRICT NO. 5.—GEORGE H. CURRIER, Prudential Committee. Miss Julia A. Bixby, of Lowell, teacher for the year. First term, 9 weeks. Number of scholars, 27. Average daily attendance, 22. Wages, \$32. Second term, 9 weeks. Number of scholars, 26. Average daily attendance, 22. Wages, \$36. Third term, 12 weeks. Number of scholars, 27. Average daily attendance, 22. Wages, \$36. Miscellaneous expenses, \$18.95. Whole number of scholars, 31—13 boys and 18 girls. The whole school attended to reading, spelling and writing, 21 to arithmetic, 8 to geography, 14 to grammar, 9 to history, 12 to composition, 21 to drawing, and 3 to algebra.

DISTRICT NO. 6.—G. W. SHERBURNE, Prudential Committee. Miss Nellie F. Hardy, teacher of the first term. Number of scholars, 4. Average daily attendance, 3. Wages, \$22. Miss Sadie B. Sherburne, teacher of the second term, 11 weeks. Average daily attendance, 9. Wages, \$22. Miscellaneous expenses, \$5.15. Amount contributed by individuals in board and fuel, \$27.00. Whole number of scholars, 11—6 boys and 5 girls. The whole school attended to reading and spelling, 8 to writing, 10 to arithmetic, 6 to geography, 6 to grammar, 2 to history, 7 to composition, 3 to drawing, and 4 to physiology.

The wages of teachers are per month of 20 school days, and include board. The whole number of scholars, is the number of different scholars that have attended the school the past year. The number of children in town between the ages of 5 and 15 years, as enumerated by the Selectmen in April last, was 134—63 boys and 71 girls. The number of all ages attending school in town the past year was 178—91 boys and 87 girls.

The amount expended for schools is.....	\$1,543 57
District No. 1, for 31 weeks' school.....	271 65
District No. 2, for 35 weeks' school.....	309 98
District No. 3, for 30 weeks' school.....	284 05
District No. 4, for 29 weeks' school.....	294 19
District No. 5, for 30 weeks' school.....	279 95
District No. 6, for 19 weeks' school.....	103 75

The whole amount appropriated last year was \$1,555.60. The total amount expended, \$1,543.57. Expense per scholar, \$8.67.

CHARLES W. HOBBS,

*Superintending School Committee.*

PELHAM, March 1, 1885.





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